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#000000 - ULTRA BLACK CHAPTER 4

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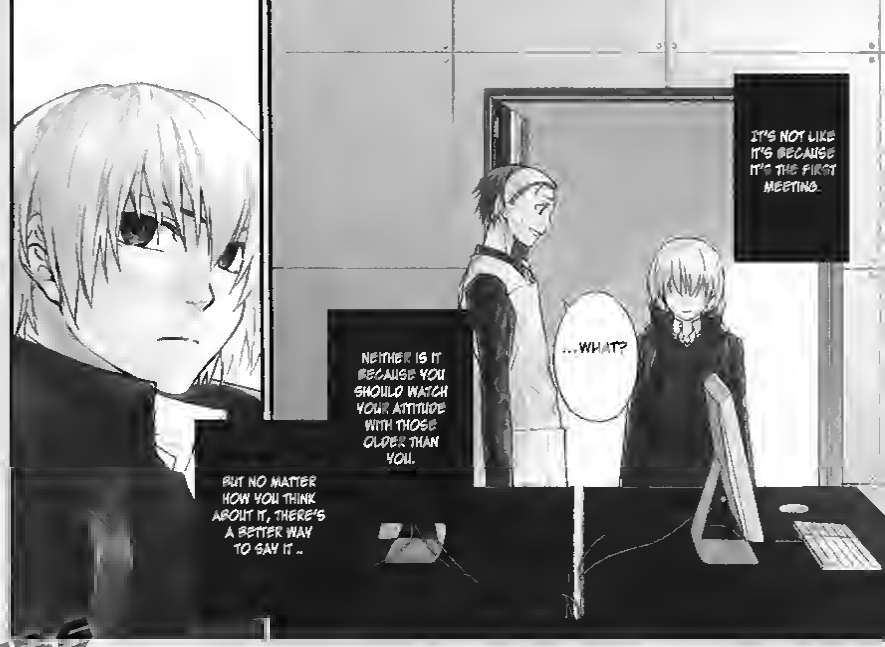
IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S BECAUSE IT'S THE FIRST MEETING.
...WHAT?
NEITHER IS IT BECAUSE YOU SHOULD WATCH YOUR ATTITUDE WITH THOSE OLDER THAN YOU.
BUT NO MATTER HOW YOU THINK ABOUT IT, THERE'S A BETTER WAY TO SAY IT ..

SEE
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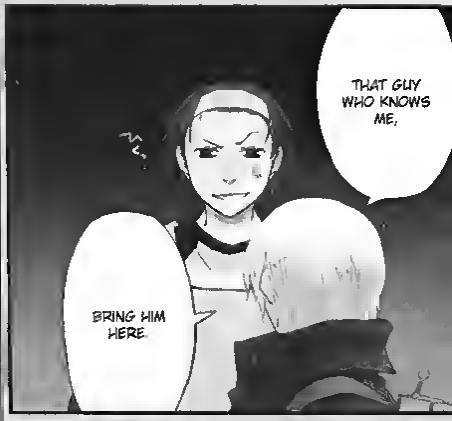
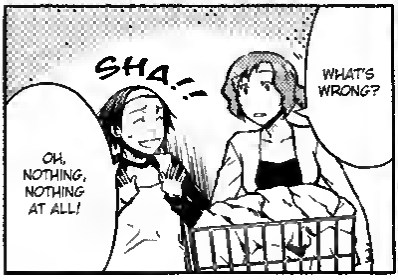


[T/N: Netaya consists of the kanji for Informant. So it's obvious he's an informant but it could also be a nickname. We'll be calling him Netaya until we find out otherwise.]

WHO'S HE?
NEI
?
PLEASE SCOLD HIM FOR ME!!
NEI-SAAAA-AAAN!!
I'm saved!
WHY... YOU!!
I HOPE YOU GET ALONG WELL!
NOBODY'S LISTENING TO ME
OH, I SEE
WHAT'S WITH THAT MANNER OF SPEECH?!
HE CAME YESTERDAY!
HIS NAME'S SANETORA-KUN



WHERE'S KANAE?
BOSS SHOULD BE UPSTAIRS SLEEPING.
HE SAID HE HASN'T SLEPT IN FOREVER
I'VE BEEN LETTING IT SLIDE BECAUSE IT'S EASIER THAT WAY

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ASSUMING THAT I UNDERSTAND BY ONLY CONSIDERING THE EASY EXPLANATION FOR THINGS...
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I DONE THAT TODAY?
WHAT ABOUT EISHI!!!?

OR AM I WRONG?
IS HE A HALFLING?
Why is he only using given names? I don't understand
I wanna scold him.
I wanna say "Hey you!" to him.
He doesn't look like a foreigner, but
YOU'RE CLEARLY JAPANESE.

DO YOU NEED ANYTHING TODAY?
Even if I said anything sigh
OH
HE WENT OUT SOMEWHERE
...

I'VE MADE A PROMISE WITH KANAE,
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S FORGOTTEN THIS PART.
SHOULD I WAKE HIM UP?
NO, THAT'S OKAY.
PLEASE GIVE THIS TO EITHER KANAE OR EISHUU
BY 18:00 SHARP TODAY.
IT'S A PENALTY FOR BEING ABSENT.

TELL THEM THEY CAN'T CANCEL
This kid
FULIN...
OKAY!
EXACTLY WHAT...
PENALTY MEANS THAT THEY'RE GETTING A DEMERIT, RIGHT?
SHOULDN'T WE WAKE...
EH?
'OKAY' MEANT...

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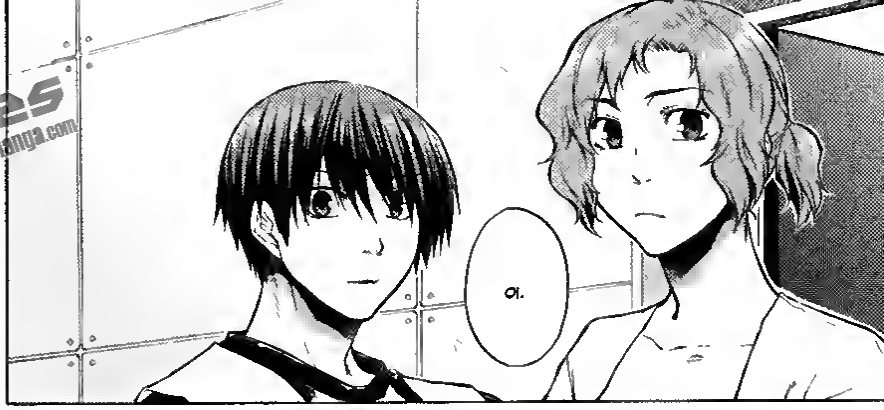

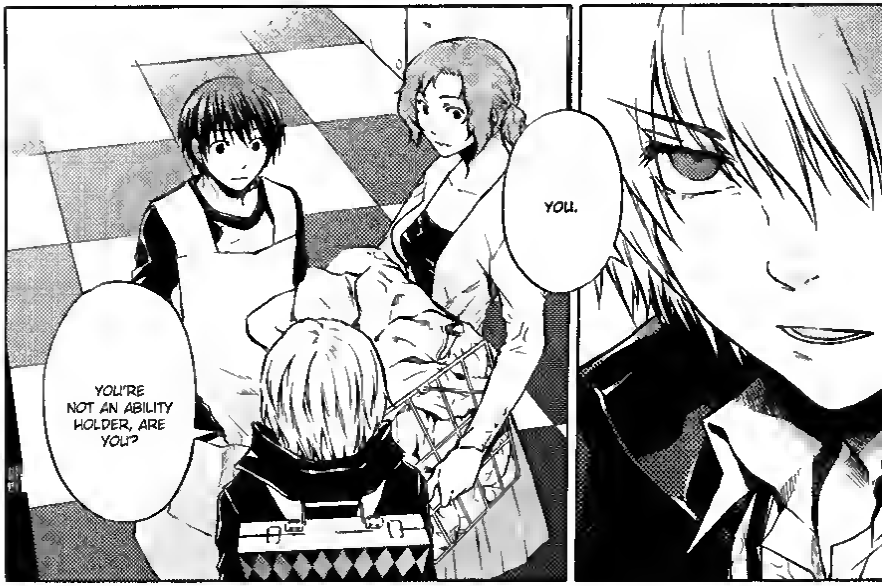

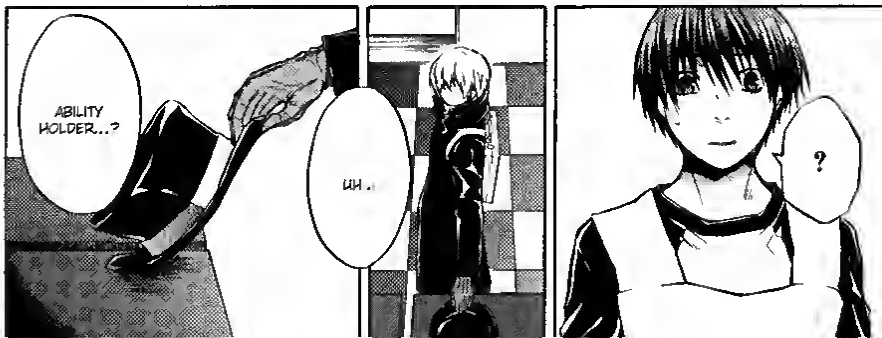

IT'S BEST TO NOT GET INVOLVED WITH THEM.
YOU WISH FOR ARE NOT FOUND HERE
YOU BETTER LEARN THAT THE NORMAL DAYS
THAT...
THAT'S NOT TRUE! THAT'S TOO MUCH...
YOU, A BORN ABILITY HOLDER,
COULDN'T POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND HIS STANDPOINT.
MUUU...

AH.
S-
SEE YOU AGAIN!!
WELL...
THAT WAS A UNIQUE KID
Aaaaaah!
I was ignored till the end

EH?
NEI-SAN?
WHAT WAS I DOING, AHAHAHA
Lots.
HAHAHA
AH.
HAHAHA

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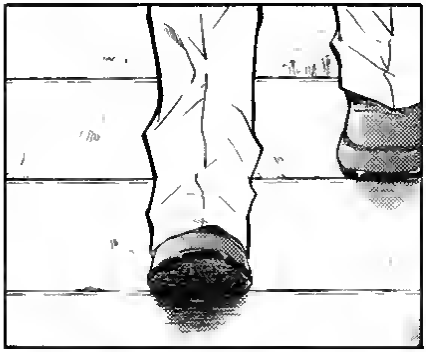
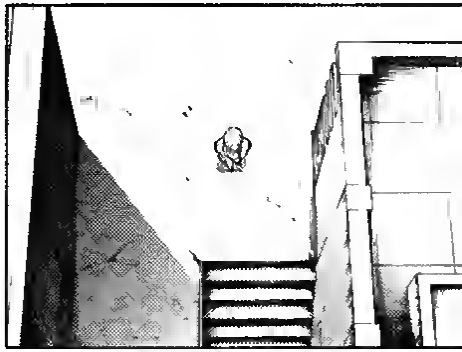
MOVED 11 YEARS AGO FROM TOKYO TO THE COUNTRYSIDE.
SINCE THEN HE HAS BEEN SUSPECTED OF BEING ONE OF THE LOST CHILDREN.
Details are unknown
FUKI SANETORA: 13 YEARS OLD. SECOND YEAR IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
GENDER: MALE. RESIDENCE: OLD TOKYO.
SELF-AWARENESS: NON-EXISTENT.
HUH





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GREETINGS.
HEY.
GREETINGS.
I WONDER HOW MUCH TIME YOU WILL GET FOR US.
IT'LL BE NICE IF THE JOB'S EASY.
CLICK
PUNCTUALITY IS
A BUSINESS'S IRONCLAD RULE.

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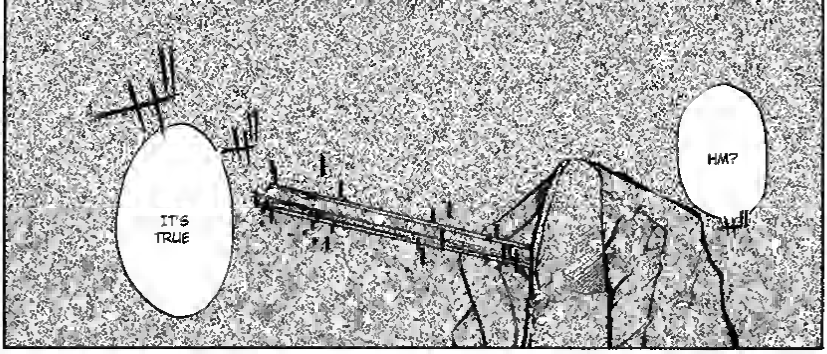
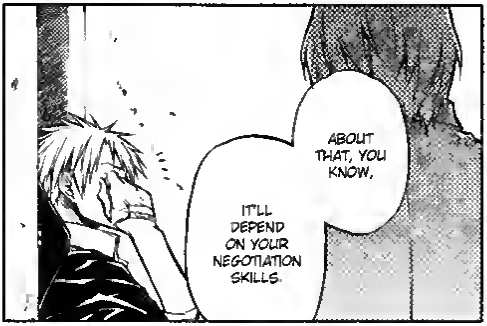
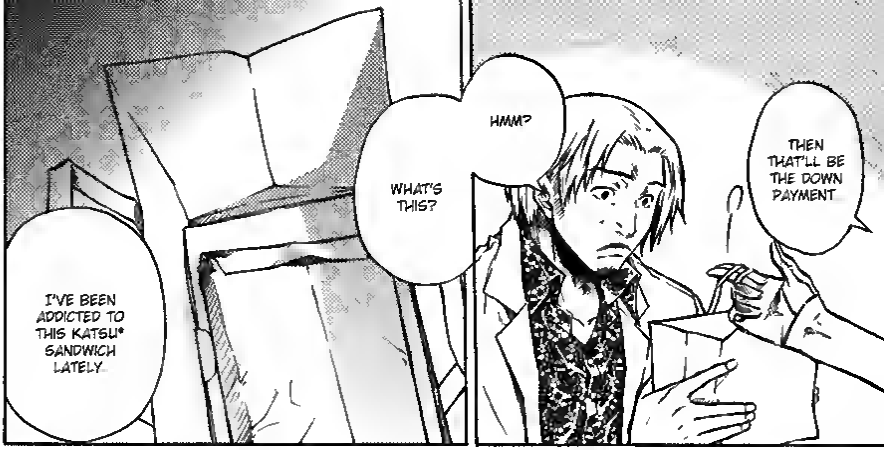

HM?
IT'S TRUE

BUT, THE GOODS AREN'T ALL THAT HIGH-QUALITY.
DID YOU GET IT AT A BARGAIN?

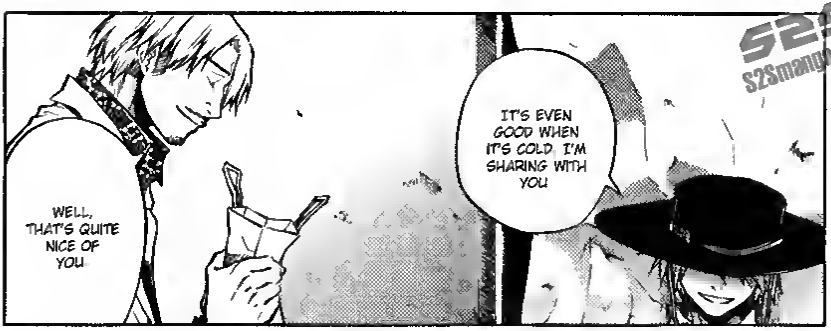
WELL, THAT'S NOT A VERY NICE WAY TO SAY IT,
BUT I GET IT.


ABOUT THAT, YOU KNOW,
IT'LL DEPEND ON YOUR NEGOTIATION SKILLS.

BUT I THINK EVEN THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO BUY THAT EYE AND YOUR SKILLS.



[T/N: A breaded and fried pork cutlet.]



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THAT INFORMATION DEALER WHO HAS BEEN GOING TO YOUR GLOOMY PLACE
FUKI SANETORA: 13 YEARS OLD SECOND YEAR IN MIDDLE SCHOOL
GENDER MALE RESIDENCE OLD TOKYO
MOVED 11 YEARS AGO FROM TOKYO TO THE COUNTRYSIDE
DETAILS ARE UNKNOWN.
SINCE THEN HE HAS BEEN SUSPECTED OF BEING ONE OF THE LOST CHILDREN

YOU REVEAL INFORMATION DEALERS WAY TOO CASUALLY.
I HOPE HE COMES BACK WITH PLENTY OF INTEL.
IT'S JUST A LIGHT-HEARTED TALK, IS IT NOT?
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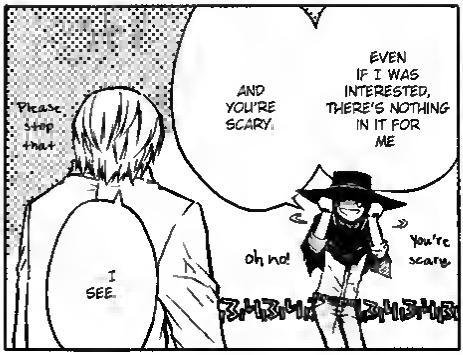
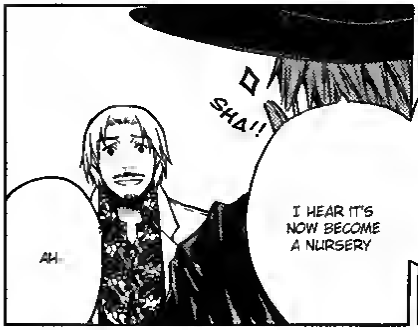
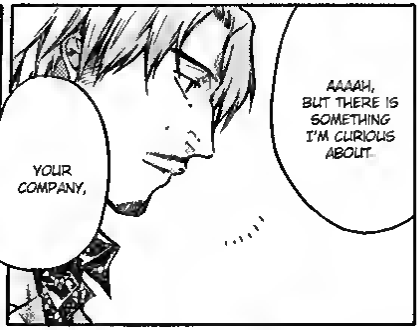
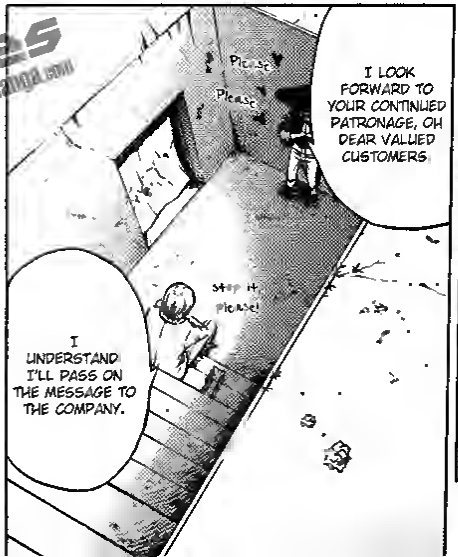
BUT YOU BETTER WATCH YOUR STEP.
HE WATCHES MY EVERY MOVE DURING OUR CHATS
I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF PERSON THAT KID IS AFTER ALL.
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE SMILING THOUGH.
HAHAHA, YOU REALIZED--?

FOR AN INFORMATION DEALER TO VOLUNTARILY UP AND GO TO GATHER INTEL,
I BET THERE'S SOMETHING BEHIND ALL THIS, NO?
WHO KNOWS
AND?
ARE YOU PERHAPS INTERESTED
WHAT THIS "SOMETHING" IS?








I LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR CONTINUED PATRONAGE, OH DEAR VALUED CUSTOMERS.
Please
Please
Stop it, please!
I UNDERSTAND. I'LL PASS ON THE MESSAGE TO THE COMPANY.

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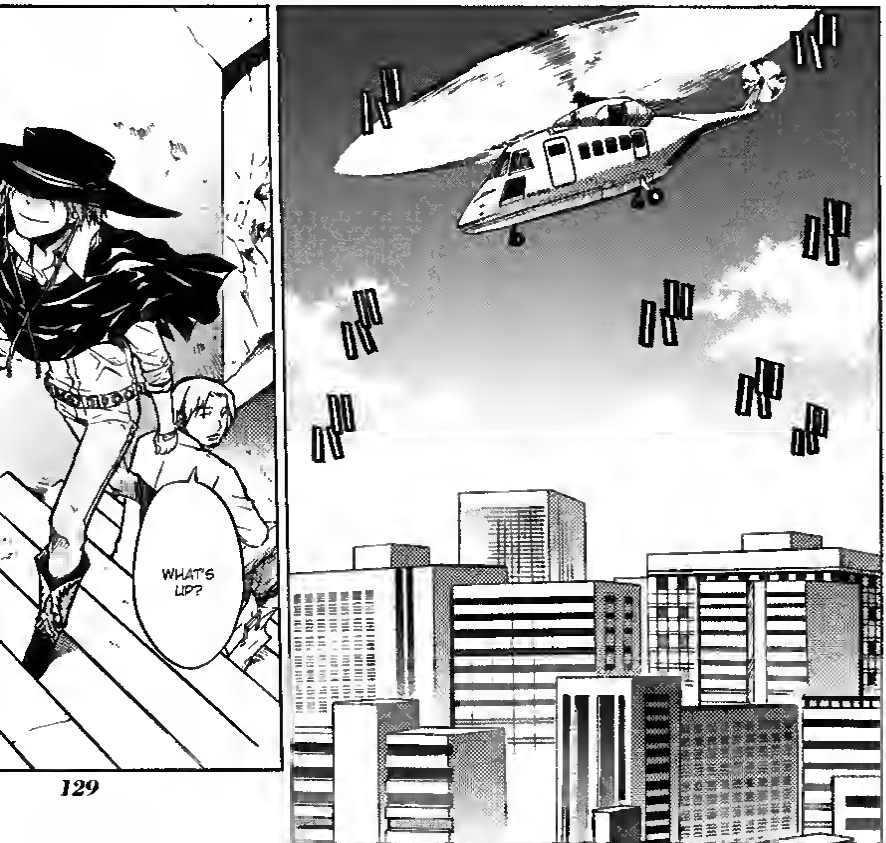
OH.
SEND IT PASSIONATELY FOR ME.


WHAT'S UP?

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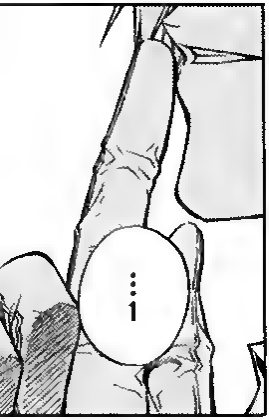
Ah, it's already so far away!
I EVEN PAID AN INFORMATION DEALER FOR THE INFO
JUST WHEN WE'RE ABOUT TO FINISH THE DEAL...THAT'S BAD TASTE

GIVE IT ANOTHER 3 SECONDS...
AT THIS DISTANCE...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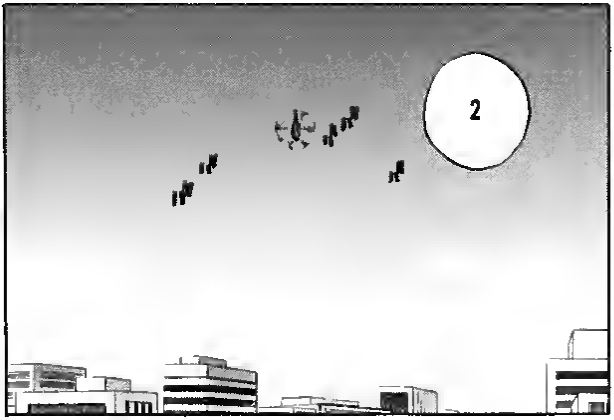
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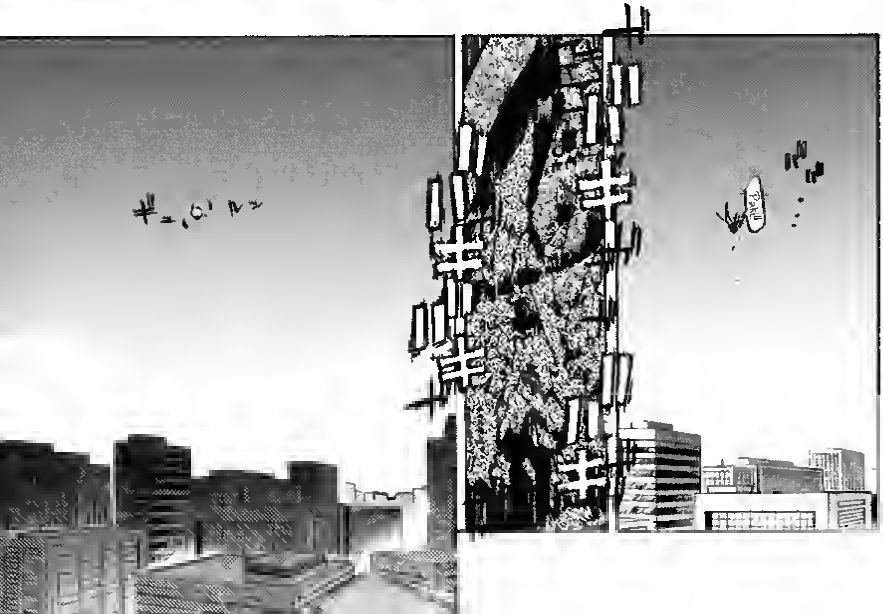

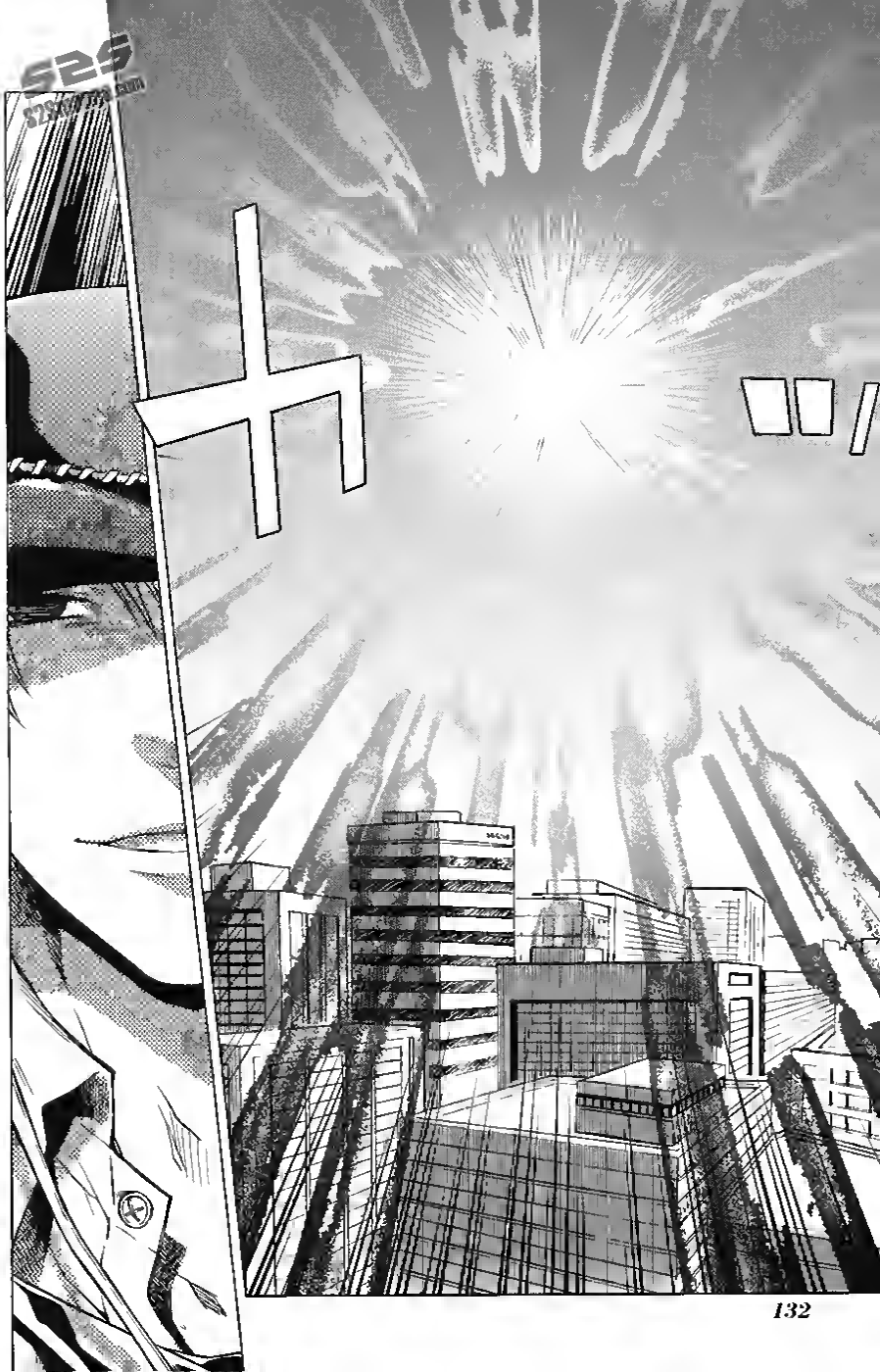

Whoo...ooo
ISN'T IT PRETTY...
WHY DID YOU GO?
COME BACK

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[T/N Ground Zero = Epicentre of explosion]

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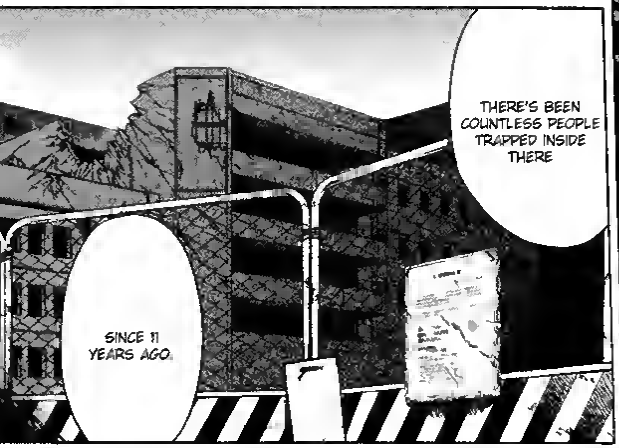
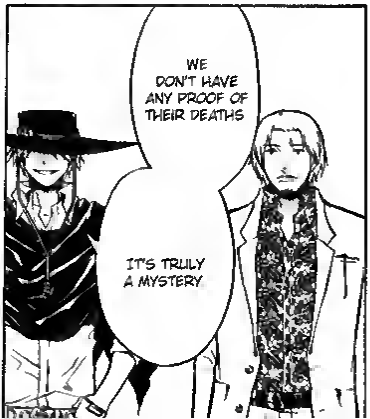


[T/N Paper above lists the info collected on Fuki Sanetomo mentioned previously in this chapter.]



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FUKISANE-KUN, I'M DONE OVER HERE
EH?!
DO YOU... HATE US..?
WHA—
WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?
I WAS SPACING OUT JUST NOW
OH.
I MEAN, NETAYA-SAN...
HE SAID THAT WE WERE DIFFERENT, DIDN'T HE?

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THAT'S WHY,
I IMMEDIATELY THOUGHT "I NOW HAVE A LITTLE BROTHER!"
What?!
HOW ON WERE YOU TWO THEN?
OH, I SEE...
.....
MAYBE I'VE FORGOTTEN SINCE I'M ALWAYS HERE,
BUT I GUESS I MIGHT SEEM PRETTY WEIRD TO YOU, SANETORA-KUN

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[T/N: Kanji is change-body so it could mean transformation as well]

AH, INUHIKO'S ABILITY.
THAT WAS BLOOD.
BLOOD?
THE GUY AT THAT TIME CERTAINLY BECAME WEIRD, BUT...
THOSE THINGS THAT APPEARED FROM OUSAKA-SAN'S HANDS...
THE RED STUFF THAT FLOWS THROUGH OUR BODIES, RIGHT?
YUP.
BLOOD IS A PART OF THE BODY, ISN'T IT?
IT'S ALSO A MUTATIVE ABILITY
HE SAYS IT COMES OUT OF HIS LEFT PALM
SU...
WHEN HE CUTS INTO IT.

PEOPLE LIKE THE 'GRAOWR' GUY LAST TIME*
WEREN'T ORIGINALLY ABILITY HOLDERS IN THE FIRST PLACE
THAT'S WHY THE RESULT WAS SLOPPY

[T/N. Refer to Chapter 2]

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT MY FATHER OR THE BOSS
TO BE TRUTHFUL,
YESTERDAY WAS THE FIRST TIME FOR ME TOO.
WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS?
ME?
...HMM, WELL...

I'M PRETTY DISCONNECTED WITH MOST PEOPLE,
SO I'M NOT VERY SELF-AWARE
?
YOU'RE AN EMPLOYEE, RIGHT?
EMPLOYEE AS IN,
I JUST WORK AT MY FATHER'S COMPANY.

THEN...
BESIDES, OUSAKA-SAN, BOTH BOSS AND SHIBA-SAN LIVE HERE, DON'T THEY?
INUWIKO'S USUALLY A LOT MORE USEFUL THAN ME, LIKE YESTERDAY.
OH, BUT HONESTLY,
I ALWAYS END UP BEING A BURDEN INSTEAD,
I THINK IT'S BEST THAT THINGS STAY THIS WAY.
DON'T
DON'T SAY SUCH A SAD, LONELY THING WITH A SMILE, PLEASE

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I'M OKAY BUT. .
I'M REALLY OKAY.
EEH,
ARE YOU USING THE EXCUSE THAT YOU'RE A BURDEN
TO GIVE UP ON YOURSELF BEFORE EVEN TRYING?
ARE YOU USING THAT REASON TO LET YOURSELF GIVE UP?
AND ALSO,
YOU SAID I WAS LIKE A LITTLE BROTHER,
SO SHOULDN'T THE BOSS BE LIKE FAMILY AS WELL?

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IS THAT SO...!
IF YOU WEREN'T HERE WITH ME RIGHT NOW, SANETORA-KUN,
I MIGHT'VE STILL BEEN ALONE.
TRUTHFULLY, I WAS LONELY! I JUST DIDN'T REALISE.
I'LL BE HERE TODAY TOO!
THEN TOMORROW, AND THE DAY AFTER THAT AS WELL.
AH,
I'VE BEEN HERE SINCE YESTERDAY!
YEAH!

THANKS FOR HELPING OUT WITH THE LAUNDRY
OH NO, THE BASKETS!
I'LL GO RETURN THEM INSIDE, ALL RIGHT?
KIRI, ARE YOU THERE?
MORE OR LESS
I'VE THOUGHT OF SOMETHING PRETTY NASTY.
HELP ME OUT WITH IT, COULD YOU?

YOU MANAGED TO FEEL LIKE YOU CAN TRUST HER,
ALL IN JUST ONE DAY LEAVE IT AT THAT
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU THINKING, IDIOT?!
OOOH, NO FLIPPING THANKS. I DON'T EVEN WANT TO HEAR A WORD YOU HAVE TO SAY
Fwah!
TO EVEN LIKE AN OLDER LADY WITH YOUR CURRENT MIDDLE SCHOOL STATUS, HOW ARROGANT!
Squeeze
IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT.

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